

REMARKS

As noted above, the Examiner will note that dependent claims 25-32 were not addressed in the Office action. Nevertheless, because these claims were dependent from other claims that are now withdrawn and cancelled due to the restriction requirement, they are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Independent claims 23-24, Group VI, which are provisionally elected for further action, have been amended solely to clarify the scope and content of the subject matter claimed. New dependent claims 33-36 recite additional features of the subject matter set forth in independent claim 23.

Independent claims 14-16 and 18, Group IV, each include common elements to the elements recited in elected claims 23-24. These common elements include, for example, a “resource-based management application” that processes human-resource centric data, and a related “graphical representation component” to display the human-resource centric data (*see, e.g., independent claims 14 and 18*). In the restriction, the Examiner contends that claims 23-24 merely concern a program management “application that **interfaces the data**,” but this interpretation is overly restrictive. Claims 23-24 (as originally filed) also stated that the application was such that it might “include” program code capable of graphically representing the [human]-resource centric data. Because claims 23-24 each concern a program management application that interfaces or includes program code to graphically represent the data, there is sufficient overlap in the Group IV and VI claims such that a complete search can be made of all these claims without serious burden. Indeed, both Groups are classified in the same Class (namely, 705), and the Examiner has identified just two (2) distinct sub-classes (namely, 7 and 9). With respect, and given the common elements among them, the Examiner should examine these claims on the merits in this case.

Other amendments herein address clarity issues in the original claim set. Further, the amendments to claims 14-16 and 18-20 are designed to pre-empt any questions that may have otherwise arisen with respect to patent eligibility under the Office’s current practice. No new matter has been included.

Applicant requests that the application now revert promptly to examination. Further, Applicant states that claims 14-16, 18-20, 23-24 and 33-36 are in condition for allowance.

A two (2) month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the response deadline through October 12, 2010.

No additional claim fees are believed to be due for this submission. If any such fees are due, please charge Deposit Account 50-4001 in the undersigned's name.

A Rule 3.73 submission and Power of Attorney are also submitted.

Consideration and favorable action are requested at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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